

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03
NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 NSCE-00
SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 /050 W
-----301148Z 030863 /21

O R 301130Z DEC 76
FM AMEMBASSY KATHMANDU
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7063
INFO AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI
AMCONSULCALCUTTA

C O N F I D E N T I A L KATHMANDU 5312

E.O. 11652 GDS
TAGS: PINS, PINT, NP, IN
SUBJ: B.P. KOIRALA RETURNS

REF: NEW DELHI 18637

1. B.P. KOIRALA AND TWO ASSOCIATES RETURNED TO KATHMANDU TODAY DEC 30. ON THE RNAC FLIGHT FROM PATNA. GON HANDLED HIS ARRIVAL DEFTLY AND HE WAS WHISKED OFF THE PLANE SO SMOOTHLY THAT MOST OF THE SMALL, QUIET CROWD OF 60 - 80 CURIOSITY-SEEKERS, JOURNALIST, AND RELATIVES/ADHERENTS WHICH HAD GATHERED AT THE AIPTOT FINALLY BEGAN TO TURN AWAY IN CONFUSION AS TO WHETHER HE HAD REALLY ARRIVED OR NOT.

2. CONTRARY TO MANY EXPECTATIONS, WHILE BEING HELD BY THE AUTHORITIES HE EVIDENTLY IS NOT BEING IMMEDIATELY CALPPED INTO IRONS TO REPENT AT LEISURE. A LIKELY SPECULATION IS THAT HE WILL NOW BE WHISKED OFF TO POKHARA (WHERE KING BIRENDRA IS CONCLUDING A TOUR OF THE WESTERN ZONES) FOR A MEETING WITH THE KING; AND THAT SUBSEQUENT DEVELOPMENTS WILL TURN ON THE RESULTS OF THAT MEETING.

3. WE HAVE SEN A LEAFLET PREPARED FOR STREET DISTRIBUTION
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AFTER HIS ARRIVAL WHICH CONSISTS OF B.P. STATEMENT OF THE REASON FOR HIS RETURN. GIST OF THE STATEMENT (BEING POUCHED) IS THAT "COUNTRY IS IN A NATIONAL EMERGENCY" AND THAT "NATIONAL SOVERIGNTY IS NEAR AN END" DUE TO THE MACHINATIONS OF "FOREIGN ELEMENTS" AND TO INTERNAL SELFISHNESS AND GREED. SALVATION CAN ONLY COME THROUGH RECOGNIZING THE INDIVISIBLE

RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN DEMOCRACY AND NATIONALISM AND BUILDING
A NEW NATIONAL COALITION ON THIS BASIS "TO UNITE AS ONE IN
DEFENSE OF THE NATION".

4. THE TONE OF THE ABOVE PAMPHLET DOES NOT BODE WELL FOR
A DETENTE BETWEEN THE KING AND KOIRALA. ASIDE FROM THE IMPLIED
INTENT TO CONTINUE TO INSIST ON A LIBERALIZATION OF THE
POLITICAL PROCESS, A POLICY OF OPEN ANTAGONISM TO INDIAN
INFLUENCES IS NOT LIEKLY TO BE JUDGED PRUDENT WITHIN THE
PALACE, DESPITE THE PALACE'S OWN APPREHENSIONS OF INDIA.
EAVES

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: POLITICAL LEADERS, OPPOSITION PARTIES, EXILES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 30 DEC 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976KATHMA05312
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760476-0083
From: KATHMANDU
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t1976124/aaaaadew.tel
Line Count: 72
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 NEW DELHI 18637
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GolinoFR
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 15 JUN 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <15 JUN 2004 by buchant0>; APPROVED <16 JUN 2004 by GolinoFR>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: B.P. KOIRALA RETURNS
TAGS: PINS, PINT, OTRA, NP, IN, (KOIRALA, B P)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006